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Slowo Katolickie, No 50, 1949.

PROFILES OF BOLESLAW BIERUT AND JAKOB BERMAN

BOLESLAW BIERUT -- Slowo Katolickie, No 50, 10 Dec 49

Because of his natural reserve and his inaccessibility at the Belweder Parace, the private life of Boleslaw Bierut is surrounded with more secrecy than that of other members of the Communist elite in Warsaw.

Boleslaw Bierut is 57 years old. He divides his time between his duties as President of Poland, chairman of the National Council, and general secretary of the PZPG. His secretaries are Edward Drozdovicz and Mrs Janicowa, the wife of a colonel of the Security Police.

President Bierut's personal guard, under Captain Marszalek, is quartered at the Belweder. While traveling, the President's security is handled by a special detachment of the Security Police under Colonels Rubinsztajn, Janica, and Dominik, the latter a Russian who speaks broken Polish.

Colonel Grzybowski is in charge of Bierut's large car park which includes a ZIS, a Buick, a Cadillac, and a Studebaker.

Wanda Gorska, his wife, is also his office chief and closest associate. Although Bierut was separated from his first wife for several years, there was no official divorce until 1946, at which time, it is said, the party requested the President to regulate his private life. He married Gorska at a civil ceremony.

Bierut has one son, a reticent young man now studying in Moscow; a daughter, Alexandra, brought up by the first Mrs Bierut, although not her daughter, and another daughter, Krystyna, now studying architecture in Warsaw. Krystyna is the President's favorite and often attends social functions at the Belweder although she is not on friendly terms with the President's wife.

The Bieruts reside on Klonowa and have a summer residence in Natolin just outside Warsaw. The President's favorite sport is hunting in Slask and East Prussia.

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JAKOB BERMAN -- Slowo Katolickie, No 50, 10 Dec 49

Jakob Berman comes from a wealthy Jewish family of old Warsaw residents. His father was part owner of the newspaper <u>Hajt</u>. Jakob and his brother, Adolph, an eminent Zionist, were brought up together. Their lives crossed temporarily during the Jewish-British war in Palestine, where Jakob, a fanatic Communist, was sponsoring the training of terrorists. However, since the Jewish state of Israel was formed in Palestine, he has lost interest in the matter.

Jakob Berman's wife, also a Communist, is a director in a department of the Ministry of Health, which she manages together with her brother, Dr Z. Grynberg. She is a dentist by profession and practices in her free time at the St Joseph Clinic in Warsaw.

The Bermans have one daughter, Lusia, now at the University of Warsaw.

Berman spends his morning hours officiating at the Presidium of the Council of Ministers on Krakowskie Przedmiescie and the afternoon at the central office of the party.

The Bermans, like most Communist officials, live on Klonowa near the Belweder in the building formerly occupied by Marshal Smigly-Rydz and his staff.

Closely associated with Berman officially are Miss Domanska and Mrs Duracz, the widow of the former legal adviser to the Soviet Embassy in Warsaw, both Communists.

Berman travels only by parlor car. He spends his vacations in Herman Goring's former palace at Bierutowice in Slask or in Jastrzebia Gora on the Baltic. He is the most closely guarded individual in Poland. Two UB agents ride in his limousine, preceded by a special Security Police car.

Jakob Berman is the chief Soviet representative in Poland, although according to the Kremlin authorities he has two grave flaws: his leaning toward Jewish nationalism and his wealthy middle-class family. He dresses with elegance and lives in splendor, greatly surpassing his life with his wealthy parents. The Bermans entertain all the Communist dignitaries and distinguished visitors.

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